THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Actually, the Leader of the House, Mr. Sikander Bakht, admitted that we should have — 'we' mean, 'he' — planned the business in advance and it should have been brought out early. Well, this has happened. This is a short session. I hope, this would not happen in the Budget Session.

Clause 2 was added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Customs Act, 1962, as passed by Lok Sabha, be returned.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, I am permitting to move the Income-Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1998, having said that this is not a precedence. It will not happen again.

THE INCOME-TAX (SECOND AMENDMENT) BILL, 1998

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (SHRI YASHWANT SINHA): Madam, I move:

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

Madam, these are also very simple amendments, these may please be passed.

The question was proposed.

श्रीमती कमला सिन्हा (बिहार) : मैडम, मैं एक बात कहना चाहता हूं । ये सतसैया के दोहरे है, सतसैया एक कवि थे, "देखने में छोटन लगे, घाव करे गंभीर" । क्या घाव करेंगे, हम नहीं जानते । आप तो कहते हैं बहुत छोटा-छोटा है ।

"सतसैया के दोहरे अरू नाविक के तीर,
देखने में छोटन लगे, घाव करें गंभीर" ।

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश) : ये इस तरह से है

"सतसैया के दोहरे ज्यों नाविक के तीर,
देखने में छोटन लगे, घाव करें गंभीर" ?

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : मैडम, घाव करने की नीयत से कोई अमेंडमेंट नहीं लाया गया है । जैसा मैनें कहा कि ये सारे अमेंडमेंट ऐसे हैं जिनसे कि टैक्सपेयर को लाभ होगा और उनकी मरहम-पट्टी होगी ।

उपसभापति : घाव भरने के लिए है ।

श्री यशवन्त सिन्हा : चूंकि आपने कहा है कि बिना डिस्कशन के पास हो जाएगा, इसलिए मैं इसको मूव करता हूं और सदन से प्रार्थना करता हूं कि इसे बिना डिस्कशन के पास किया जाए ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: The question is:

"That the Bill further to amend the Income-tax Act, 1961, as passed by Lok Sabha, be taken into consideration."

The motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We shall now take up clause-by-clause consideration of the Bill.

Clause 2 to 8 were added to the Bill.

Clause 1, the Enacting Formula and the Title were added to the Bill.

SHRI YASHWANT SINHA: Madam, I move:

"That the Bill be returned".

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Now, we have two statements. I am sure, Members would like one of these statements. It is about enhancing the Area Development Fund of the Members of Parliament. I think, nobody is going to object to it. About the other statement, I do not know.

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Madam, I have one clarification on Mr. Ram Naik's statement. *(Interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, nothing. First let him read. There is a

Committee appointed by the hon. Chairman to look into the MPs Local Area Developmnet Scheme and the problems faced by the Members in coordinating, with the Ministry of Programme Implementation. I am the Chairman of it. If you have any problem, do not ask that on the floor of the House. You can come to the Committee.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

I. Members of Parliament local area Development Scheme

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI RAM NAIK): Madam, the Members of Parliament belonging to almost all political parties have for some time been demanding that the amount allocated under the Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme be increased. As we are all aware, when the Scheme was initiated in 1993, each Member of Parliament had a choice to suggest works to the tune of Rs. 1 crore as per the guidelines.

It has been increasingly perceived that though the efficacy of the Scheme is not in doubt, in view of the increasing •demands made on the Members of Parliament for development of their areas .....

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: As nobody is opposing it, you can lay it on the Table. Please lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI RAM NAIK: Madam, with your [permission, I beg to lay a copy of the Statement on the Table of the House.

SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA (West Bengal): From which period will it be effective?

SHRI RAM NAIK: It will be effective during 1998-99, this year. *(interruptions)*

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No questions. *(interruptions)* No clarifications. If I allow you, then I will have to allow others also, there are no exceptions in this House, *(interruptions)*

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU (West Bengal): Madam, I will just take one minute. ...*(interruptions)*... I am not saying anything about the recommendation of the Committee. My point is since our resouces are finite—I think the Finance Minister will allow me to say that our resources are finite. Ultimately, these have implications for the resource allocation to the States and for the process of decentralisation *per se.*

I would like to know whether the states have been consulted before announcing this. I would also like to know whether it will have any implications for the allocation to the States; and whether it is consistent with our general commitment to the process of decentralisation enshrined in the 73rd or 74th Amendment to the Constitution. ...*(interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: this is not a small question. ...*(interruptions)*...

SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: I think this is a very vital question.
... *(interruptions)*...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: I will not allow any comment on that. ...*(interruptions)*... No, no. ...*(interruptions)*... I am not allowing...*(interruptions)*... I am sorry ...*(interruptions)*... I will not allow any deviation. ...*(interruptions)*... Now, Mr. Barnala. ...*(interruptions)*... Mr. Bhandaryji, don't take advantage. ...*(interruptions)*... I know you did; I saw it. Now, Mr. Barnala.

श्री रामदेव भंडारी : मैडम, आधा मिनट, मैं एक सुझाव देना चाहता हूं।

उपसभापति : आपको सुझाव देना है तो आप कमेटी को दे दीजिए।

श्री रामेदव भंडारी : आपको भी दे दूंगा। ...(**व्यवधान**)